



Safe Neighborhood

Azalea

Park

Action Plan

April 2015



Azalea Park Safe Neighborhood Action Plan 2015 – 2018

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INTRODUCTION

Safe Neighborhoods:

The Safe Neighborhoods Program targets Orange County’s older and transitioning neighborhoods and is designed to assist residents reclaim their communities from crime, deterioration, and blight. The program partners citizens with the Sheriff’s Office, Orange County Departments and Divisions, the private sector, community stakeholders and others to collaboratively preserve and stabilize neighborhoods.

Community residents, business owners and stakeholders continue to work with Orange County leaders and staff to implement an update to the existing Azalea Park Safe Neighborhood Action Plan. The Action Plan provides a profile of the community, including demographic information, land use and zoning data, and community infrastructure. The plan will further define the community’s core issues and propose projects and programs to address specific issues.

The Azalea Park Safe Neighborhood Action Plan update provides goals, objectives and strategies to guide the revitalization efforts of the community over the next three years. Most importantly the plan includes action steps – a series of specific, assignable and sequential actions required to complete any strategy.

Funding Source:

The money used by the Safe Neighborhoods Program are maintained in the “Crime Prevention Fund.” This fund is generated by additional fines assessed to criminals found guilty by the judicial system of Orange County. Criminals found guilty of a misdemeanor are assessed an additional \$25 and anyone convicted of a felony is assessed an additional \$50. These fines are assessed at the discretion of the presiding judge.

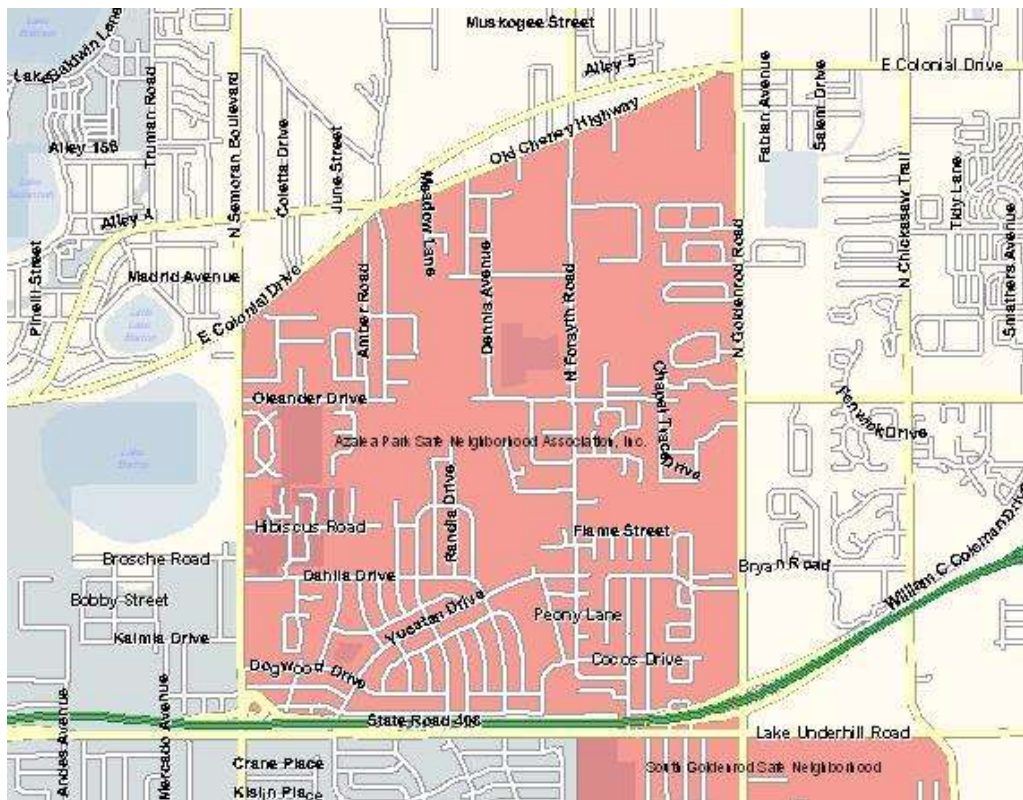
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HISTORY

The Azalea Park community started as 400 acres of vacant land just east of the City of Orlando’s city limits in 1952. Formerly an airport, the \$7.5 Million development was the “crowning glory of the year”. Boasting a completely new community, the Azalea Park development was one of the largest residential developments in Central Florida at that time with 1,100 attractively priced homes for more than 4,000 residents.

A state of the art development in 1952, Azalea Park was designed as a community for young families with little spare cash. The price of a typical two bedroom home in Azalea Park at the time was just over \$7,000. A family could choose from various styles and floor plans, which included new home features that normally were only available in higher priced homes. Some examples of the features of the new homes were all electric kitchen, dining area, carport, breezeway or porch and window blinds. The neighborhood as a whole offered its own specialized features such as hard surfaced roads, electricity, water, sewer services and eventually bus service.

LOCATION



The Azalea Park community is centrally located within the heart of Orange County. Approximately four miles from downtown Orlando, the community is bounded to the north by Colonial Drive/S.R. 50 and Old Cheney Highway, to the east by Goldenrod Road, to the south by the East-West Expressway, and to the west by Semoran Boulevard/S.R. 436. Although the majority of the Azalea Park community is located within unincorporated Orange County, there is a small portion of the community that is incorporated by the City of Orlando (see Figure 1).

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CITIZEN PARTICIPATION STRATEGY

The process began with a kick-off community meeting to build interest in the process; and distribution of a survey developed to determine the perception of crime and assess the public safety needs of Azalea Park. Participation and input continued through a series of community meetings. Dialogue between citizens, church leaders, community organization representatives, and business owners worked to prioritize issues, identify projects, and develop action steps for implementation. Through this process a core group of leaders emerged and continue to build capacity for further community involvement so that projects are seen through to completion.

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

All meetings were held at Christ the King Episcopal Church, unless otherwise indicated. Appendix A contains raw survey results.

COMMUNITY MEETING REMINDER FOR SURVEY: June, 10, 2013

KICK OFF MEETING: Monday, July 8, 2013

COMMUNITY MEETING FOLLOW UP: Monday, August 12, 2013

COMMUNITY MEETING REMINDER FOR SURVEY: April 14, 2014

PRESENTATION AND SURVEY RESULTS: April 26, 2014

COMMUNITY MEETING FOLLOW UPTE: May 12, 2014

The draft presentation to the board was positively received and the priority of creating a communication strategy was agreed. The notice went out in a timely fashion and the information was posted on the reader board signs. After some explanation, the public understood how to read the Action Plan and were satisfied that it is a document that set measurable goals.

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DEMOGRAPHICS

The following is a demographic snapshot of the Azalea Park neighborhood. This information is based on 2010 U.S. Census information. Census Tracts 131 and 132 make up the Azalea Park neighborhood and include the Orlando Executive Airport. The majority of the Safe Neighborhood area falls within Census Tract 132.

As demonstrated from the table below, the Azalea Park neighborhood is comparable to Orange County with regards to age and sex of the general population.

Table 1.0 – Population characteristics

Census Category	2000 Azalea Park	2010 Azalea Park	2010 Orange Co.
Total Population	11,073	12,556	1,145,956
	2.83%	8.47%	4.59%
Male	5,459	6,217	564,326
% of population	49.3%	49.5%	49.2%
Female	5,614	6,339	581,630
% of population	50.7%	50.5%	50.8%
Less than 5 years old	778	905	74,185
% of population	7%	7.2%	6.5%
Greater than 65 years old	1,136	1,277	110,919
% of population	10.3%	10.2%	9.7%

Table (1.1) compares Azalea Park’s racial diversity and Hispanic origin to that of Orange County and that is where Azalea Park differs. Azalea Park’s white population is close to that of the white population for Orange County. However, the percentage of black population is significantly less and the population that includes Asians and Native Americans and several other races is almost twice that of Orange County.

In the past people often thought of Hispanics as a race category, however, the census has clarified the meaning of Hispanic Origin as “...can be viewed as the heritage, nationality group, lineage, or country of birth of the person or the person’s parents or ancestors before their arrival in the United States. People who identify their origin as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino may be of any race.” The Hispanic Origin population mentioned above in table 1.1 makes up a significant portion of the Azalea Park population. In Orange County only 26.9% of the population identifies themselves as Hispanic compared to 59% in the Azalea Park community. Even though Azalea Park has achieved a reputation as a Hispanic community in Central Florida it maintains the same share (2%) of Orange County’s Hispanic population as it did in 2000.

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Table 1.1 – Race and Hispanic Origin

Census Category	<i>2000 Azalea Park</i>	2010 Azalea Park	2010 Orange Co.
Total Population	10,597	12,556	1,145,956
White	7,777	8,462	728,795
% of population	70.2%	67.4%	63.6%
Black	747	1,294	238,241
% of population	6.7%	10.3%	20.8%
All others	1,611	1,749	77,216
% of population	14.5%	13.9%	6.7%
Hispanic Origin (any race)			
Hispanic or Latino	4,315	7,413	308,244
increase %	-----	2.40%	2.2%
% of population	39%	59%	26.9%

The next demographic that we will look at is the housing characteristics of the Azalea Park neighborhood. The percent of owner occupied housing in the Azalea Park community has remained relatively stable. The major change in the community is the increase in rental occupied units, especially compared to the County level. What we can see from the data below is that as homeowners move out of the area, those homes tend to become rental units. This trend may explain the neighborhoods concern that the neighborhood is becoming a transient community.

Table: 1.3 – Housing Characteristics

Census Category	<i>2000 Azalea Park</i>	2010 Azalea Park	2010 Orange Co.
Total Housing Units	4,115	4,948	487,839
% increase	---	5.94%	3.86%
Owner Occupied	2,242	2,328	243,950
% of units	56.3%	52.6%	57.8%
Renter Occupied	1,739	2,100	177,897
% of units	43.7%	47.4%	42.2%
Vacant	134	520	65,992
% of units	3.3%	10.5%	13.5%

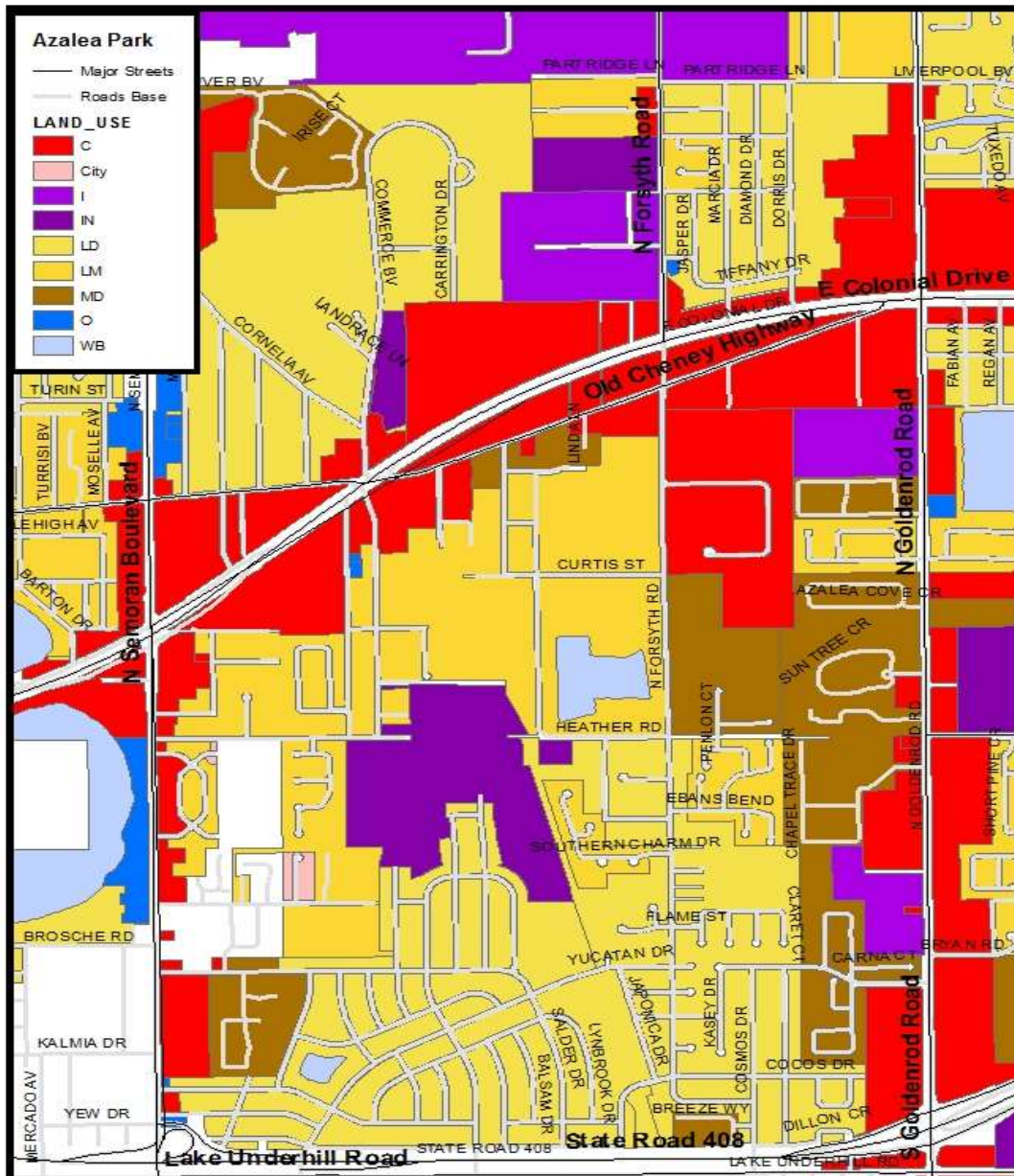
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LAND USE

In order to gain a better understanding of the Azalea Park community, a brief description of the area's land use and zoning follows. Although portions of the area are within city boundaries, only the County's land use and zoning is reported.

Future Land Use (FLU): The future land use is generally consistent with the current zoning in most areas within Azalea Park, with exception to the northern residential areas zoned R1-A north of Heather Rd. This area FLU will be transformed from single family to LMDR, or low-medium residential. This new classification allows for up to 10 dwelling units per acre.

Orange County Future Land Use Map

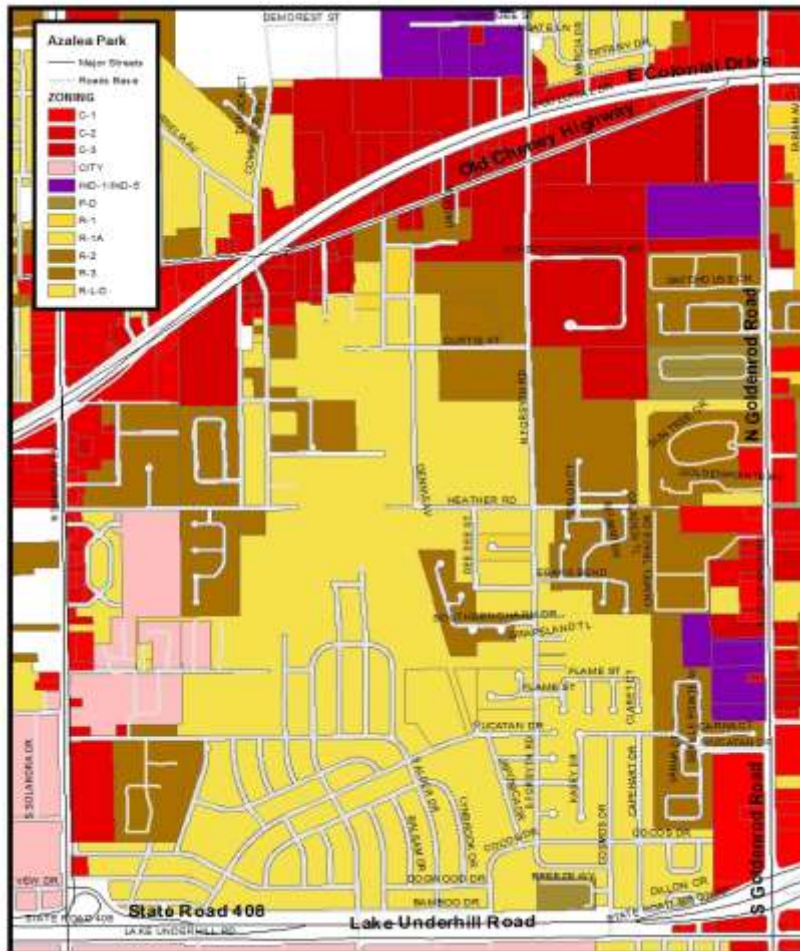


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Zoning: Current zoning in Azalea Park is predominately R-1/R-1A/R-2 throughout much of the core of the community. These zoning types are defined as a single-family dwelling districts or residential district. Lot sizes will vary from 4,500 sq. ft. to 7,500 sq. ft. The characteristics of such areas are single-family homes built on lots larger than the structure itself. The purpose of the single-family residential district is to stabilize and protect the residential characteristics of the district and to promote and encourage a suitable environment for family life. There is a small pocket located within Azalea Park zoned as R-L-D, or residential low density. Low-density areas are residential developments with up to 1 dwelling unit per acre.

Surrounding the residential core is a blend of commercial designations R-3 (multifamily housing), C-1/C2/C-3 (multifamily housing), and I-1/ I-5 (light industrial). North Goldenrod is the community's eastern border, and has a mixed use pattern predominantly with multifamily, office and commercial uses. There are, however, a few parcels designated as light industrial. The northern border of Old Cheney Highway is designated a wholesale commercial district, C-3. Completing the northern border, the East Colonial Dr. segment continues to carry on the C-3 classification transitioning to Commercial, C-1 and C-2, just prior to the Western boundary of Semoran Blvd. The Western boundary is a zoned exclusively commercial (C1 & C2) with exception of the several parcels annexed to the City of Orlando. State Road 408 is Azalea Park's Southern boundary and zoning is exclusively single family (R1-A and P-D).

Orange County Zoning Map



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TRANSPORTATION

Roads: Major roadways include, State Highway 436/N. Semoran Blvd, State Hwy 50/E. Colonial Drive, N. Goldenrod Road, and Lake Underhill Road.

Bicycles and Pedestrians: Azalea Park has designated bicycle lanes on N. Semoran Blvd and no bicycle trails or signed routes. Sidewalks are present on both sides on most major roadways in the area. However, in the residential areas most sidewalks are on only one side of the street (including Lake Underhill Road). Most streets in Azalea Park have sidewalks. Therefore, there are only a few gaps in the network that need to be filled.

Wide 4-lane roads place bicyclists and pedestrians directly in the flow of traffic. All the major roadways are medium to high-speed and high traffic, depending on the time of the day. Yet the reality is that speeding is an issue, as well as a lack of education for drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians about proper behavior. A strategy which includes engineering and education is highly recommended to address these issues. Other modes of transportation include Central Florida's bus system, LYNX.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Park: Yucatan Park is an eleven-acre park located at 6400 Yucatan Dr. Amenities includes picnic pavilions and tables, dog park, playground, basketball court, and skate park.

Community Centers: They are currently no community centers in the Azalea Park area.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Police: The Orange County Sheriff's Office will play an integral role in reshaping the image of the Azalea Park Community. The community falls within Zone 25A and 25B.

Fire: The closest Orange County Fire Rescue Station is Station # 66, which is located northwest of the target area. However, service can also be received from Station #63 located to the north of the area.

Libraries: They are no public libraries currently in Azalea Park. However, there are three libraries close by, Southeast, Herndon and opening soon Chickasaw Library Branch. The Southeast Library is located in the Terracotta Business Park, five miles from Azalea Park. The Herndon Library is located on East Colonial Drive near retail centers and restaurants and is only 3 miles from Azalea Park. The Chickasaw Library will be on Chickasaw Trail north of Valencia College Lane.

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Schools: Colonial High School’s main campus is located on Oleander Drive in the heart of Azalea Park. The school serves over 3,500 students from grades 10 through 12, making it one of the largest schools in Florida. Colonial High School had a very successful academic year in 2013-2014, improving in every measure on the State Accountability System and scoring a "B" on the State grading formula. Additionally, Colonial High School has one of the largest Hispanic populations in Orange County.

Forsyth Woods Elementary is located on Curtis St., south of E. Colonial Dr. It currently enrolls 699 students from kindergarten to fifth grade. Forsyth Woods Elementary is the 793rd largest public school in Florida and the 7,530th largest nationally. It has 15.2 students to every teacher.

Acceleration Academy High School is located on S. Semoran Blvd between E. Michigan St. and Curry Ford. Acceleration is a public alternative school in Orlando, Florida. It has 378 students in grades 8-12.

Churches: The Azalea Park community consists of the following churches. Table G on this page lists the churches.

Table G: Azalea Park Churches

Christ the King Episcopal Church	26 Willow Dr.
Christian Congregation in the US	445 N. Forsyth Rd.
Church of the Great Commission	5032 Forsyth Commerce Rd.
Good Shepherd Catholic Church	5900 Oleander Dr.
Orlando Church of Christ	210 N. Goldenrod Rd.
New Beginnings	431 N. Semoran Blvd.
Calvary Tabernacle	5725 Dahlia Dr.
Iglesia de Dios Pentacostal	5894 Dahlia Dr
Azalea Park United Methodist Church	50 Willow Dr.

Social Programs: There are only a few organizations which offer services to the citizens of Azalea Park Safe Neighborhood. The Action Plan update process revealed that many residents in Azalea Park feel that there is a lack of services available. Many people who serve the community believe that the problem is a lack of effective communication regarding the services available. As a result, creating a complete list of resources for area residents is one of the Safe Neighborhood’s primary goals.

Good Shepard Education Learning Center – serves infants to thirteen years old. The center offers a wide variety of opportunities for children to participate in activities such as music programs, athletics, drama, service projects, and student leadership

Semoran Business Partnership – a community partnership that includes businesses, residents, neighborhood associations, schools, churches, merchants and property owners. In collaboration with local government and law enforcement, it strives to improve the aesthetic and economic conditions of the Semoran Blvd. corridor.

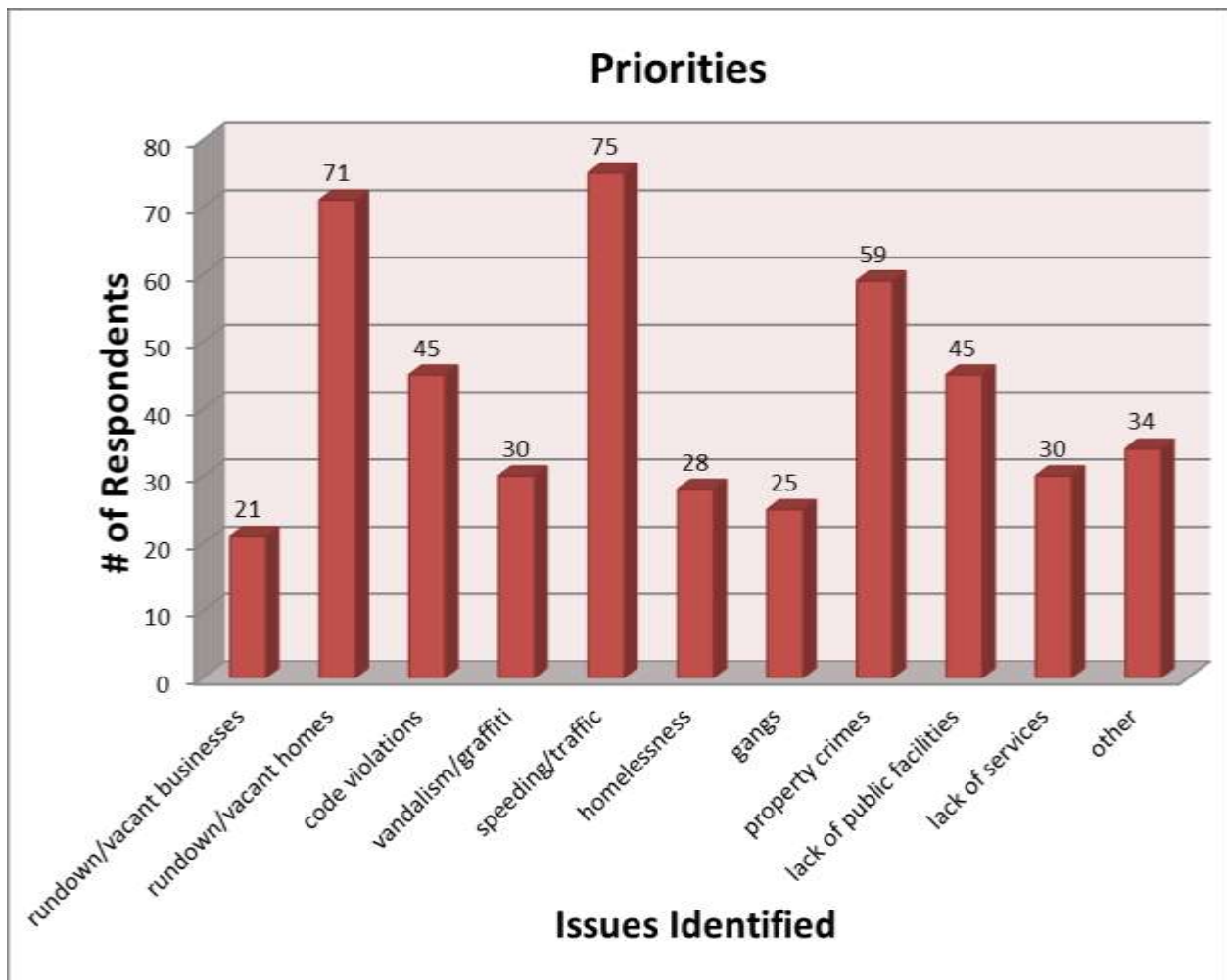
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Azalea Park Baptist School – is a family focused school. The school offers a Step Up For Students program which provides K-8 scholarships for low-income school children. Students who qualify may receive more than \$4,000 for private school tuition. A separate \$500 transportation scholarship is also available.

COMMUNITY ISSUES

Through surveys and meetings, residents of Azalea Park were able to provide input regarding issues in the area. The categories were prioritized as follows:

The survey results below indicate that the top identified categories relate to a speeding/traffic, issues of rundown/vacant homes, and property crimes. About 83 percent of respondents stated that they did not belong to any Azalea Park associations. However, 78 percent stated they have heard of Azalea Park Safe Neighborhoods. These results suggest an issue not directly identified by citizens – lack of organized community involvement. In regards to speeding/traffic the Safe Neighborhood program cannot directly provide infrastructure and services (except for traffic calming and street lighting); however, the program offers an opportunity to create a unified voice for the community, and connect citizens to available resources and information.



PLAN SUMMARY

The Azalea Park Safe Neighborhood Action Plan includes three basic sections: neighborhood fabric, neighborhood infrastructure, and neighborhood services. The following is a summary of the top five goals, objectives and action steps that were developed over a series of five community meetings. The citizens that attended the five community meetings, with minimal assistance from county staff, developed all goals and objectives included in this document. A transcript of these meetings is included in an appendix of this document.

This document does not include any financial commitment by Orange County to the initiatives identified here within.

Top Five Priorities

1.) RUNDOWN HOMES/VACANCIES

Neighborhood Infrastructure Section, Goal 1

Continue work as the Azalea Park Safe Neighborhood to receive additional improvements such as parks and recreation areas, sidewalks, streetscape, and streetlights that will continue to have a positive impact on property values

2.) SPEEDING/TRAFFIC

Neighborhood Infrastructure Section, Goal 2

Improve the safety and quality of the neighborhoods streets through proper maintenance (fix potholes and broken curbs), speed humps, traffic islands and alternative traffic control measures

3.) PROPERTY CRIMES

Neighborhood Services Section, Goal 4

Address the attractiveness of the area and presence of crimes such as drugs, vandalism, burglaries, speeding and panhandling by working with law enforcement, traffic enforcement, regular patrols, and drug /gang enforcement

4.) LACK OF PUBLIC FACILITIES

Neighborhood Fabric Section, Goal 3

Support the churches and schools, both public and private, within the neighborhood

5.) CODE VIOLATIONS

Neighborhood Services Section, Goal 3

Beautify the neighborhood by encouraging litter control, yard maintenance, code compliance, and neighborhood signage

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GOALS, OBJECTIVES, STRATEGIES, ACTION STEPS

Neighborhood Fabric

This section of the plan focuses on strategies to enhance the characteristics of the neighborhood that distinguish Azalea Park from other surrounding neighborhoods. Citizens created all goals, objectives and action steps with the assistance of Orange County Neighborhood Services Division staff.

Goal 1 - Support the cultural diversity of the neighborhood

Objective 1.1 - Bilingual section of newsletter

Action Steps:

1.1.1 Utilize a translator to translate the newsletter into other languages.

Lead: APSNA Board

Partners: Neighborhood Preservation & Revitalization Division

Resources: Volunteers

Timeline: Quarterly

Objective 1.2 - Recognize/honor neighborhood leaders, businesses, and supporters

Action Steps:

1.2.1 Take advantage of Orange County's Community Awards Program to recognize community partners.

Lead: APSNA Board

Partners: ASPNA members

Resources: NPR&D

Timeline: Immediate - Annually

Goal 2 – Maintain the character of the neighborhood (e.g. large lots, well built homes, and good neighbors)

Objective 2.1 - Maintain right-of-way

Action Steps:

2.1.1 Call Orange County Government Services Hotline (407-836-3111) to report any right-of-way issues and have them addressed.

Lead: Neighborhood Residents

Partners: Orange County

Resources: None

Timeline: Immediate

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Goal 3 - Support the churches and schools, both public and private, within the neighborhood.

Objective 3.1 Create opportunities to collaborate with schools and churches

Action Step:

3.1.1 Make space for church and school programs in the neighborhood newsletter and encourage participation from neighborhood residents.

Lead: APSNA Board/Designated Newsletter Coordinator

Partners: Neighborhood Residents, Church and Schools

Resources: Advertisers and/or Businesses

Timeline: Immediate (Quarterly)

Objective 3.2 Attend church events to support them

Goal 4 - Encourage new and continued community involvement from business owners.

Action Step:

4.1.1 Thank businesses in the newsletter and at community events

Lead: APSNA President

Partners: Neighborhood Preservation & Revitalization Division

Resources: Newsletter, Advertisers

Timeline: Immediate

Objective 4.2 Interact with business owners more for newsletter and litter clean up

Action Steps:

4.2.1 Support local businesses that support the neighborhood

Lead: Neighbors

Partners: APSNA

Resources: None

Timeline: Immediate

Goal 5 - Encourage continued community involvement, teamwork and accessibility of the Azalea Park Safe Neighborhood Association.

Objective 5.1 Become involved in/with volunteer and neighborhood programs

Action Steps:

5.1.1 Utilize email blast, newsletters, and meeting signs for outreach.

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Lead: APSNA Board
Partners: Neighborhood Businesses
Resources: Donations, Orange County Safe Neighborhood Funds
Timeline: Immediate

Objective 5.2 Strengthen attendance and recruit new members/neighbors

Action Steps:

5.2.1 Give out an annual prize for participation and attendance of eight meetings a year.

Lead: APSNA Board
Partners: Neighborhood Businesses
Resources: Donations, Orange County Safe Neighborhood Funds
Timeline: Immediate

5.2.2 Encourage neighbors to attend by keeping them informed and inviting them to meetings

Lead: APSNA members
Partners: Neighborhood Businesses
Resources: Nextdoor.com, APSNA signs
Timeline: Immediate

5.2.3 Publish safety articles in the APSNA Newsletter.

Lead: APSNA Board
Partners: Orange County Sheriff's Office, Safety Council of Central Florida
Resources: Newsletter
Timeline: Immediate

Goal 6 – Encourage continued or improved relationships between neighbors

Objective 6.1 Organize a “Welcoming Committee” for the neighborhood

Action Steps:

6.1.1 Visit new neighbors to welcome them to the neighborhood.

Lead: Welcoming Committee
Partners: volunteers
Resources: Realtors, Business Owners
Timeline: One to two years

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Neighborhood Infrastructure

This section of the plan focuses on strategies to enhance the various networks, including communication and transportation within the neighborhood that are vital to making Azalea Park a viable neighborhood. Citizens created all goals, objectives and action steps with the assistance of Orange County Neighborhood Preservation & Revitalization Division staff.

Goal 1 - Continue work as the Azalea Park Safe Neighborhood Association to receive additional improvements such as parks and recreation areas, sidewalks, streetscape, and streetlights that will continue to have a positive impact on property values.

Objective 1.1 Speak out against negative impacts to ensure continued property values and lower taxes.

Action Step:

1.1.1 Stay informed of rezoning and development activities in the neighborhood by reviewing the Planning and Zoning Board agenda.

Lead: APSNA Board

Partners: County Government, neighborhood residents

Resources: Internet (www.ocfl.net), Newspaper, email

Timeline: Immediate

Objective 2.1 Work with elected officials to continue improving our neighborhood.

Action Step:

2.1.1 Work closely with Commissioner's Office

Lead: APSNA

Partners: APSNA, Commissioners, NPR&D

Resources: Time, none

Timeline: Immediate

Objective 2.2 Maintain communications with OUC, County and City departments to resolve neighborhood issues.

Action Step:

2.2.1 Create phone and email contact list for government departments and agencies

Lead: APSNA Board

Partners: OUC, County and City departments

Resources: OUC, County and City departments

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Timeline: Immediate – ongoing

Objective 2.3 Revitalize Communities using beautification grants

Action Step:

2.3.1 Implement beautification projects

Lead: APSNA Board

Partners: Citizens

Resources: None

Timeline: Immediate - ongoing

Objective 2.4 More Streetlights to address safety concerns.

Action Steps:

2.4.1 Start an MSTU for street lighting by gathering citizen interest and working with the Orange County Comptroller's Office.

Lead: Neighborhood

Partners: O. C. Comptroller's – MSTU Program (407) 836-5726

Resources: Money via tax bill, varies by project

Timeline: Three to four years

2.4.2 If a streetlight is burned out get the closest property address and the 5-6 digit pole number and call:

Progress Energy - (407) 629-1010

Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC) - (407) 737-4222

Lead: Residents

Partners: Progress Energy, OUC

Resources: Free, residents' time

Timeline: Immediate - ongoing

Objective 2.5 Obtain nice public trash cans and bags that say “Good Neighbor” for walkers.

Action Steps:

2.5.1 Work with Waste Pro to create an ongoing program.

Lead: Beautification committee or APSNA Board

Partners: Orange County Solid Waste Division

Resources: Grants Team, Safe Neighborhood Funds

Timeline: Three to Four Years

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Objective 2.6 Maintain Yard of the Quarter Program.

Action Step:

2.6.1 Work with Orange County Neighborhood Preservation & Revitalization Division to take advantage of the Clean and Attractive Neighborhoods (C.A.N.) program.

Lead: APSNA Beautification Committee

Partners: Neighborhood Preservation & Revitalization Division

Resources: None

Timeline: Immediate

Goal 2 - Improve the safety and quality of the neighborhoods streets through proper maintenance (fix potholes and broken curbs), speed humps, traffic islands and alternative traffic control measures.

Objective 2.1 Create a program for businesses and individuals to adopt entranceways into the neighborhood and Colonial High School Clubs to “adopt a street”

Objective 2.2 Educate adults to personally follow the rules; and talk with kids about following the traffic rules as well

Goal 3 - Work with Government to improve storm water drainage throughout the neighborhood.

Objective 3.1 Identify areas of the neighborhood that have storm water issues, document (be specific) and call Orange County for assistance

Action Steps:

3.1.1 Call Orange County Roads and Drainage Division about problem locations by dialing 311

Lead: Citizens

Partners: Orange County

Resources: Orange County Capital Projects Fund

Timeline: Ongoing

3.1.2 Call or email Neighborhood Preservation & Revitalization Division for assistance (Cristina Pichardo-Cruz) (407) 836-5621 or email Cristina.Pichardo-Cruz@ocfl.net

Lead: Citizens

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Partners: Orange County
Resources: Orange County Capital Projects Fund
Timeline: Ongoing

Neighborhood Preservation & Revitalization Division

This section of the plan focuses on strategies to improve the services that residents depend on. Citizens created all goals, objectives and action steps with the assistance of Orange County Neighborhood Preservation & Revitalization Division staff.

Goal 1 - Ensure that the neighborhood continues to have quick response by 911/emergency services and quick access to hospitals and medical facilities.

Objective 1.1 - Report violations, get involved and know your officers, request assistance before situations escalate.

Action Steps:

1.1.1 Talk to deputies on regular patrol and at local merchants.

Lead: Entire neighborhood
Partners: OC Homeland Security, Florida Hospital, OCSO, CERT
Resources: Phone, email, time
Timeline: Ongoing

Objective 1.2 – Continue to support the Off-Duty deputies in Azalea Park

Action Step:

1.2.1 APSNA should keep regular contact with Orange County Sheriff's office letting them know where neighborhood "hotspots" are.

Lead: APSNA Board
Partners: Citizens, O.C.S.O. Sector Captain
Resources: Phone, Email
Timeline: Ongoing

Goal 2 - Utilize more government programs such as Orange County Clean and Attractive Neighborhoods (C.A.N.), Fixing up the Neighborhood (F.U.N), and Neighborhood Watch to ensure better cooperation with Government Agencies.

Objective 2.1 – Involve APSNA in more projects

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Action Step:

2.1.1 Maintain contact with county program coordinators.

Lead: APSNA residents

Partners: O.C. Program Coordinators, resident volunteers

Resources: newsletter/email

Timeline: ongoing

Goal 3- Beautify the neighborhood by encouraging litter control, yard maintenance, code compliance, and neighborhood signage.

Objective 3.1 Yard of the quarter award & recognition.

Action Step:

3.1.1 Maintain a quarterly program utilizing Orange County Preservation & Revitalization Division – contact (407) 836-5606

Lead: Beautification Committee

Partners: NPR&D, residents

Resources: Minimal

Timeline: One to two years

Objective 3.2 Promote neighborhood pride

Action Steps:

3.2.1 Establish an award program to recognize outstanding neighbors.

Lead: APSNA Board

Partners: Residents

Resources: Minimal

Timeline: One to two years

3.2.2 Take advantage of Orange County's Community Awards program and nominate deserving neighbors.

Lead: APSNA Board

Partners: Residents

Resources: Minimal

Timeline: One to two years

Objective 3.3 - Individuals should call and report code violations to Code Enforcement

Action Step:

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3.4.1 Contact Code Enforcement via phone at 407-836-3111

Lead: Citizens
Partners: Orange County and City of Orlando
Resources: None
Timeline: Immediate

Objective 3.4 - Call Progress Energy or OUC about dangerous trees across power lines

Action Steps:

3.4.1 Acquire contact info for all utilities and distribute it to all residents.

Lead: APSNA
Partners: Residents
Resources: Newsletters and email
Timeline: One to two years

Objective 3.5 - Schedule regular volunteer litter pickup at entranceways and encourage individuals to pick up trash around their house and in the street

Action Step:

3.5.1 Utilize Orange County juvenile offenders and CHS students to assist with community cleanups.

Lead: APSNA
Partners: O.C. Juvenile Justice, CHS Students
Resources: Trash bags, Gloves, food
Timeline: One to two years

Objective 3.6 - Host clean-ups every other year

Action Steps:

3.6.1 Form a clean-up committee to organize 3 months prior to the event.

Lead: APSNA Board
Partners: NPR&D and Businesses
Resources: Donations, Corporate Vendors, and Volunteers
Timeline: Immediate - October of every other year

Goal 4 - Address the attractiveness of the area and presence of crimes such as drugs, vandalism, burglaries, speeding and panhandling by working with

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law enforcement, traffic enforcement, regular patrols, and drug /gang enforcement.

Objective 4.1 – Create a partnership with the Sheriff’s Office and the Orlando P.D.

Action Steps:

4.1.1 Invite law enforcement officers to monthly meetings

Lead: APSNA – leadership board

Partners: Local Law Enforcement

Resources: none

Timeline: Immediate – ongoing

Objective 4.2 – Get to know your neighbors and don’t hesitate to call suspicious activities

Action Steps:

4.2.1 Call O.C.S.O. non-emergency line to report suspicious activity. (407) 836-HELP (4357)

Lead: All citizens

Partners: Sheriff’s Office

Resources: None

Timeline: Immediate

4.2.2 Create a “Lights on Neighborhood Program.”

Lead: Safety Committee

Partners: Residents, NP&RD

Resources: OCSN Funds, O.C. Crime Prevention Grant

Timeline: One to two years

Objective 4.3 – Encourage Homeowners through meetings and the newsletter to maintain their homes and surrounding yards and provide more outside lighting.

Objective 4.4 – Create a APSNA liaison with the School Resource Officers

Action Step:

4.4.1 Ask school principals to send resource officers to monthly neighborhood meetings.

Lead: APSNA Board

Partners: School Principals

Resources: Minimal

Timeline: One to two years

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Objective 4.5 – Ask law enforcement to set up “traps” to catch repeat offenders (drugs and traffic)

Objective 4.6 – Photograph graffiti to be sent to O.C. Sheriff’s Gang Unit

Action Step:

4.6.1 Residents will list location of graffiti and e-mail photos to APSNApresident@yahoo.com and send to the O.C. Gang Unit.

Lead: Citizens

Partners: O.C. Sheriff’s Office

Resources: Minimal, Time

Timeline: Immediate

Objective 4.7 - Educate citizens about the benefits of locking doors and windows

Action Step:

4.7.1 Invite O.C.S.O. Crime Prevention Deputy to do a presentation to residents.

Lead: APSNA Board

Partners: Crime Prevention Officer, Residents

Resources: Minimal

Timeline: One to two years

Goal 5 – Reduce government involvement in our neighborhood.

Objective 5.1 – Take an active approach to get quality services for root issues.

Action Step:

5.1.1 Work closely with the Commissioner’s office to voice community issues

Lead: APSNA

Partners: Residents, Orange County Commissioner

Resources: Minimal

Timeline: Immediate - ongoing

Objective 5.2 - Keep APSNA alive and functioning

Action Step:

5.2.1 Create an incentive program with awards and prizes to encourage participation

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Lead: APSNA - President

Partners: APSNA Board, NPR&D, area merchants

Resources: Safe Neighborhoods funds, donations, recognition

Timeline: One to two years

Goal 6 – Work with code enforcement and other agencies to address excess yard sales, noise pollution, homelessness, unemployment, transient population and feral cat/rat/vermin issues.

Objective 6.1 - Call Orange County Animal Services for Assistance and traps

Action Step:

6.1.1 Call Animal Services at (407) 836-3111

Lead: Citizens

Partners: O.C. Animal Services

Resources: None

Timeline: Immediate

Goal 7 – Educate new residents on existing laws and regulation as well as local customs and traditions.

Objective 7.1 - Encourage new residents to join groups such as APSNA

Action Step:

7.1.1 Prepare welcome package including history and local customs.

Lead: APSNA Board

Partners: Local Businesses

Resources: Donations from businesses

Timeline: Immediate